

CLAIMS

1. A device enabling to hold a paper sheet close to the vertical in order to facilitate the viewing thereof, characterized in that it comprises first holding means (1) and second holding means (2) which cooperate with the first holding means (1) in order to confer to the sheet (3) gradually, as the latter is introduced between the first and the second holding means (1, 2), an initial curvature which rigidifies the sheet (3).

2. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that the first holding means (1) and the second holding means (2) delineate among them a space (13) intended for accommodating the sheet (3) and whose aperture (a) shrinks in the sense of introduction of the sheet.

3. A device according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the first means (1) exhibit a concave surface (14) slightly tilted backwards and provided with two bearing zones (8, 9) and the second means (2) exhibit a convex surface (15) opposite the concave surface (14) and fitted with a protrusion (5) acting on the sheet in its section arranged between both bearing zones (8, 9).

4. A device according to claim 3, characterised in that the concave surface (14) comprises a recess (4) provided by a contraction in the material of the first holding means (1).

5. A device according to claim 3, characterised in that the bearing zones (8, 9) of the first means (1) are composed of plane surfaces delineating between them at the base of the space (13) an obtuse angle whose apex is directed towards the back of the device and whose value ranges from 90° to 160°.

6. A device according to claim 3, characterised in that the bearing zones (8, 9) of the first means (1) are materialised by ridges (16, 17) and in that the protruding section (5) penetrates to such a depth that between these three points at the base of the device (13), an angle can be defined whose apex is represented by the protruding section (5) and whose value may range from 90° to 160°.

7. A device according to any of the claims 3 to 6, characterised in that the bearing zones (8, 9) of the first means (1) are tilted with respect to the horizontal plane in order to delineate an angle whose value ranges from 45° to 85°, so that the plane of the sheet (3) delineates with the axis of a user's eye, approximately a right angle.

8. A device according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the first means (41, 51) are formed in order to exhibit essentially bearing zones (8, 9) only, whereas a portion of the first means, between the bearing zones (8, 9) consists at least partially of an absence of material.

9. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that the first means (31) are mounted on an articulation (10) interconnected to an actuating body (11) fitted with holding means (12) in position against the second means (32), whereby the actuation of the said body (11) enables to spread the first means (31) from the second means (32) in order to facilitate the placement of the sheet (3).

10. A device according to claim 1, whose first and second holding means (21, 22) are intended for holding a first sheet (3A), characterised in that it comprises at least third holding means (23) and fourth holding means (24) working together with the third holding means (23) in order to confer at least to a second sheet (3B), spaced from the first sheet (3A), an initial curvature which rigidifies the second sheet (3B).

11. A device according to claim 1, characterised in that the first holding means are composed of a back section (1) fitted with at least two bearing zones, right and left (8, 9), slightly tilted backwards and between which is provided a recess (4) in that the second holding means (2) are composed of a front section (2) comprising opposite the recess (4) a protruding zone (5) intended for penetrating into the recess (4), whereas the sheet (3) to be held can be inserted between the back section (1) and the front section (2) so that during the introduction of the sheet (3) into the device, the protruding zone (5) confers at the bottom of the sheet (3) a vertical fold (6) curving the sheet and creating, towards the upper angles

of the sheet (3) lines of force (7) which stretch and rigidify the said sheet (3).

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a' >

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B3